



wisconsin department of
children + families

201 East Washington Avenue, Room G200

P.O. Box 8916

Madison, WI 53708-8916

Governor Scott Walker
Secretary Eloise Anderson

Secretary's Office

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Contact: Sara Buschman, 608.266.9000

**Wisconsin Receives Federal Grant to Improve Educational Outcomes
for Kids in Foster Care**

MADISON.....The Department of Children and Families (DCF) has received a \$500,000 federal grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to study the educational challenges facing children in Wisconsin's child welfare system and develop effective strategies to help foster kids succeed in school.

The grant provides funding to allow the Department to coordinate with the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to track data between the child welfare system and K-12 schools. This will allow collaboration between child welfare caseworkers and schools to target the educational needs of kids in foster care.

"It is important that we identify students who are struggling and make sure they get the help they need," said Eloise Anderson, Secretary of the Department of Children and Families. "Governor Walker and the Department are committed to giving children the educational foundation they need to achieve success."

"Many children who enter foster care have experienced traumatic events in their young lives. Research shows, this causes a significant toll on their ability to learn," continued Secretary Anderson. "As a result, kids in foster care often fall behind in school or dropout altogether. This grant will help us target what their needs are and help them better succeed in school."

Under the grant, the Department will coordinate child welfare and K-12 data to track outcome trends by child, school, school district and statewide. The data will be used to provide targeted foster youth with high-quality educational services in collaboration with multiple partners.